

THE SHELTON CHRONICLE

a newsletter for faculty and staff of Shelton State Community College

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SHELTON STATE INSTRUCTOR HONORED BY UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA FOOTBALL GREATS

They were some of "Bear's Boys," the Alabama coaches and players who were part of Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant's football legacy at the University of Alabama. They gathered recently at Shelton State to honor one of their own, Kareem McNeal.

McNeal joined the Alabama family as a freshman in 1991 and was a member of the Alabama's 1992 National Championship football team. He was named all-academic SEC in 1993. In 1994 he was a starting right tackle for Alabama and second team all-SEC. His football career ended abruptly in 1995 when an automobile wreck left him in a wheelchair and without the use of his legs. Through hard work and

courage, McNeal managed to come back and complete his education with a degree in health and human performance in 1996 and a master's degree in health education in 1999.

Former New York Jets quarterback and Hall of Famer Joe Namath was the star attraction for the evening. Namath, who now lives in Palm Beach, Fla., returned to Tuscaloosa especially for the gala. Joining him were McNeal's former coach Gene Stallings, former Alabama quarterback Steadman Shealy, UA athletic director Mal Moore, and former assistant coaches under Bryant, Clem Gryska and Bobby Marks.

In 1999 McNeal joined the staff of Shelton State's Wellness Center under the direction of Milady Murphy. Recognizing the potential of McNeal, who is now the strength and conditioning coach for Shelton's basketball team, Murphy and Shelton President Rick Rogers realized that McNeal would be an asset in the classroom. Today he also teaches classes at Shelton in exercise and personal health.

It didn't take long for McNeal

to become an important part of the college. Shelton State prides itself on being student accessible, according to Rogers. "We've built our entire new campus on this idea. Everything at Shelton is built so that it is accessible to people with disabilities. Kareem has been an inspiration to us all. That's why we established this scholarship in his name. The new Kareem McNeal Scholarship will be available to students with special challenges who are interested in attending Shelton State Community College."

For Namath, returning to Tuscaloosa was like coming home. Shelton State was a small trade school when he played for the University of Alabama in the early 1960's. "I've enjoyed seeing some of my old friends while I've been here. This great building was not here when I was in Tuscaloosa," Namath said, referring to Shelton State's new campus. "This is certainly a beautiful campus."

The spectacular evening which was held in the college's atrium area included dinner, music, dancing, a silent auction as well the presentation of the scholarship.

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SHELTON'S SUMMER ENROLLMENT SHOWS LARGE INCREASE

Summer enrollment at Shelton State shows a large increase even though the final figures are not yet complete. The current number enrolled at Shelton State Community College this summer is 3,503 students, a 22.5% increase over the 2,860 students who attended Shelton last summer. With many additional courses to be offered during the second summer term, the administration expects the final summer enrollment figures to exceed 4600 students. This dramatic rise follows an 11.75% enrollment increase for the spring 2001 semester.

The credit hour production is up even more. Credit hour production is up 32% from summer 2000. Current credit hour production for summer at Shelton State is 24,882 semester hours. Credit hour production for the same time last summer was 18,791 hours.

"We are extremely excited over the large summer enrollment. We are seeing significant increases and growth not only in many of our basic academic courses, such as English, math, and science, but in our technical programs as well," said Shelton President Rick Rogers.

"There are many reasons for this increase," Rogers said. "We have set up a variety of scheduling changes for the summer. Our schedule is more flexible, and more classes are offered at different times. We also have a close working relationship with The University of Alabama, which is a great benefit to our students."

"We believe Shelton is becoming an even more 'user friendly college.' Students may now register by telephone, and enrollment in our online biology course has doubled this summer. We also have a new policy where students who are on scholarship at Shelton can begin taking courses this summer rather than waiting for fall semester. We have also changed and improved our marketing efforts, Rogers said.

"Our faculty and staff have been tremendous," Rogers said. "Although we have improved many of our procedures, I believe the major reason for this large increase is that we have a wonderful faculty and staff.

Many students attending Shelton are from the West Alabama area. Records show that of last year's high school graduates who enrolled at Shelton State the great majority were from Tuscaloosa County. Central High School East, Tuscaloosa County High School, and Hillcrest High School were the three largest feeder schools to Shelton State. Many students from Hale, Bibb, Pickens, and Greene counties also attended Shelton State during 2000-2001.

TEEN ACTING WORKSHOPS CONTINUE

Theatre tuscaloosa's Workshop II will be held June 18-29 at the theatre facilities on the Martin campus.

Designed for students 12 - 19 years of age, the workshops include study of improvisation techniques, monologue and scene study and instruction in the Stanislavski acting method. The workshops are

under the direction of Michael Carr. The cost for the session is \$200 plus a \$20 registration fee. For more information, call ext. 2258.

Mark you calendars. The Shelton State Foundation annual Barbecue Bash will be Thursday, September 27, at the Martin Campus.

On the Calendar

**Monday, June 18: Lifetime Learning Board, 1 p.m., Foundation Conference Room*

**Tuesday, June 19: Publications Action Group, 12:30 p.m. Foundation Conference Room*

**Tuesday, June 19: Quality Council, Fredd Campus, 3 p.m.*

**Wednesday, June 20, Marketing Committee, 12 noon, Fredd Campus*

**Third Tuesday Lunch June 21, 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m., D rooms, Bring your favorite Comfort Food. Call ext. 2626.*